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**Summary record of the 28th meeting**
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 2 June 2016, at 3 p.m.

*President*: Mr. Shava (Vice-President) ..... (Zimbabwe)

## Contents

Agenda item 12: Coordination, programme and other questions (*continued*)

(f) Prevention and control of non-communicable diseases

Agenda item 19: Social and human rights questions (*continued*)

(b) Social development

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*In the absence of Mr. Oh Joon (Republic of Korea), Mr. Shava (Zimbabwe), Vice-President, took the Chair.*

*The meeting was called to order at 3.15 p.m.*

**Agenda item 12: Coordination, programme and other questions** (*continued*)

**(f) Prevention and control of non-communicable diseases** (E/2016/53 and E/2016/L.16)

1. **Mr. Obermeyer** (World Health Organization, (WHO)), introducing the report of the Director-General of the World Health Organization on the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases (E/2016/53), said that the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases, established in 2013, currently had approximately 30 members, with the number of members increasing every year. Non-communicable diseases were the cause of over 16 million premature deaths annually. The United Nations was stepping up support to countries to address the issue of non-communicable diseases, and countries were increasing prevention efforts.

2. As tobacco control was central to the efforts of the Task Force, the joint programming missions were increasingly conducted in concert with the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control needs assessment missions. Non-communicable diseases were becoming a more important component of United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, but national progress remained insufficient. Faster and deeper action was required in order to meet General Assembly commitments made in 2011 and 2014. In late 2017, the Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) would provide a report to the General Assembly on countries' progress, as measured against a set of indicators whose baseline had been released in 2015.

3. The Task Force had developed global joint programmes on cancer control, cervical cancer, mobile health and catalysing multisectoral action for non-communicable diseases, the latter in response to recommendations from the joint programming missions. Each joint programme was designed to provide catalytic technical support to increase national capacity and financing for national non-communicable disease response. There would be a window of opportunity over the coming two years to invest in scaling up action at the international and national levels, in order to achieve by 2030 the goal of reducing premature mortality from non-communicable diseases by one third.

4. Properly financed, the broad range of expertise available within the Task Force could have a huge impact on health and development. Without additional financial support, the work of the Task Force in the field would be limited. Efforts must be increased in the coming year to move beyond normative guidance and raise resources to implement and replicate multisectoral action through joint programming at country level.

*Draft resolution E/2016/L.16: United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases*

5. **Mr. Kononuchenko** (Russian Federation), introducing draft resolution E/2016/L.16, and speaking also on behalf of Belarus and Japan, said that the revitalization of the Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases was crucial to reduce mortality from non-communicable diseases and meet relevant targets under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Russian Federation welcomed the establishment of two new thematic working groups, one on surveillance and one on road safety. The efforts of the Task Force had led a growing number of countries to include in their national development strategies programmes to prevent and control non-communicable diseases.

6. Prevention and control of non-communicable diseases were priorities in Russian domestic and foreign policy; the Russian Federation's national measures to reduce the burden caused by non-communicable diseases were among the most effective in the world. Over the past three years, in the framework of the relevant World Health Organization programmes, the Russian Federation had provided assistance in preventing non-communicable diseases to 24 countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

7. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Council) said that Canada, Indonesia, Mexico, Serbia and South Africa had joined the sponsors of the draft resolution.

8. **The President** said that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

9. *Draft resolution E/2016/L.16 was adopted.*

**Agenda item 19: Social and human rights questions** (*continued*)

**(b) Social development** (A/71/61-E/2016/7 and E/2016/26-E/CN.5/2016/5)

10. **Ms. Roy-Henriksen** (Division for Social Policy and Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs), introducing the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes (E/2016/7), said that a growing body of evidence indicated that in many countries, family policies contributed to poverty reduction. A focus on families was also part and parcel of efforts to ensure health, promote well-being and learning opportunities for people of all ages and advance gender equality and equal sharing of parental and family responsibilities, including through better work-family balance.

11. There was a need for legal reforms and improved enforcement of existing laws to change cultural and social norms and break the cycle of violence in families and societies.

12. **Mr. Jinga** (former Chair of the Commission for Social Development), introducing the report on the fifty-fourth session of the Commission for Social Development (E/2016/26-E/CN.5/2016/5), said that throughout the deliberations, speakers had noted that the Commission would have a critical role to play in contributing to the follow-up for the social pillar of sustainable development and in providing relevant policy guidance on the social development priorities identified in the 2030 Agenda.

13. In his address to the fifty-fourth session of the Commission, the Secretary-General had reminded participants of their moral and political responsibility to ensure implementation of the 2030 Agenda. He had recalled that continued policy guidance by the Commission would be crucial to ending global poverty by 2030 and providing a life of dignity for all, on a healthy planet.

14. Improved understanding of the interaction between national and regional or international development strategies was needed. Countries must therefore identify mechanisms for refinement, coordination and regulation of strategies. Data collection was necessary to measure the impact of policies on poverty levels.

15. Leaving no one behind would involve identifying all different types of inequalities and their drivers. Promotion of the Decent Work Agenda was an important area for action. The Envoy of the Secretary-General on Youth had suggested that the Commission could serve as a forum for discussion of youth issues relevant to all of the Sustainable Development Goals.

16. Persons with disabilities must be involved in all development efforts at all stages. There had been discussion of the role of the Commission in supporting a coherent and cohesive approach to the rights of persons with disabilities within the United Nations system, particularly in relation to monitoring and measuring progress. There had been a proposal to establish a standing forum on disabilities and development within the Commission or under the General Assembly. It had been proposed that the Economic and Social Council create a permanent space where United Nations agencies, the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and other mandate-holders could analyse progress in implementation of the Goals, coordinate efforts to ensure coherence of approaches and support States in reporting to the high-level political forum on sustainable development. There had also been a suggestion to establish a high-level technical panel to discuss implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, ensuring participation of all stakeholders, including persons with disabilities and their representative organizations, academia, civil society organizations and local governments.

17. The Bureau had endeavoured to align the work of the Commission with that of the Council. The discussions held during the fifty-fourth session of the Commission would be highly relevant to the work of the Council. The Commission's resolution on its future organization and methods of work, which had been transmitted to the Council, was of particular relevance.

18. During the fifty-fourth session, it had become clear that innovative national policies and strategies to eradicate poverty and generate full and productive employment, fostering social integration based on the enhancement and protection of all human rights, had generated positive outcomes. The Commission could therefore use its expertise to play a critical role as a forum contributing to follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda. The Commission would continue to provide concrete policy guidance on inclusive sustainable development, poverty reduction, social

inclusion, social protection (including social protection floors), and increased participation.

19. **Mr. Rios Sánchez** (Observer for Mexico) said that in the context of sustainable development and assistance to families, modifications had been made to the Civil Code of Mexico, enabling judges to issue new birth certificates. For the purpose of passport issuance, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs would accept birth certificates registering a change in gender.

20. There was also a proposal to reform the Constitution, in line with a decision of the Supreme Court, to guarantee marriage equality without regard to ethnicity, social condition, disability, health condition, religion, gender or sexual preference.

21. It was important for the Commission to continue to examine its working methods in 2017, adapting them to the work of the Economic and Social Council. In electing a Chair for the next two years, the Commission should observe the principle of geographic representation.

*Action on recommendations contained in the report of the Commission for Social Development on its fifty-fourth session* (E/2016/26-E/CN.5/2016/5)

22. **The President** invited the Council to take action on three draft resolutions contained in chapter I, section A, of the report (E/2016/26-E/CN.5/2016/5) and a draft decision contained in chapter I, section B.

*Section A*

*Draft resolution I: Future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development*

23. *Draft resolution I was adopted.*

*Draft resolution II: Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development*

24. *A recorded vote was taken.*

*In favour*:

Afghanistan, Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, India, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Somalia, South Africa, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe

*Against*:

Belgium, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstained*:

None.

25. *Draft resolution II was adopted by 26 votes to 16, with no abstentions.**

*Draft resolution III: Rethinking and strengthening social development in the contemporary world*

26. *Draft resolution III was adopted.*

*Section B*

*Draft decision: Report of the Commission for Social Development on its fifty-fourth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-fifth session*

27. *The draft decision was adopted.*

*The meeting rose at 4.15 p.m.*

* The delegation of the Republic of Moldova subsequently informed the Council that it had intended to vote against the draft resolution.